

TRAINER INFORMATION SHEET

| Host Organisation Details |
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| <p>Name and location of host organisation: NATHAN EBANKS FOUNDATION, JAMAICA Address: 6 Montgomery Road, P.O. Box 2334, Kingston 8, Jamaica W.I.</p> |
| <p>Type of organisation: The Nathan Ebanks Foundation[®] is a registered non-profit organization, with distinguishing work in education, care, protection, participation and empowerment of children with disabilities (Including mental health disorders) in Jamaica. NEF was founded in 2007 by Christine Staple Ebanks and Robert Ebanks in honour of their son Nathan who at the age of nine months, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. The Ebanks' saw the need when they could not find any of the information, support, programmes or services their son needed to develop and thrive.</p> <p>The mission of the Nathan Ebanks Foundation is to build bridges from within and without Jamaica, to inform, educate, build capacities and advocate so as to enhance the holistic development, health and well-being, and improve the quality of life and inclusion of all children and adolescents with disabilities (Including mental health concerns and disorders), special education needs and those who are vulnerable and marginalized in Jamaica.</p> |
| Details of Placement |
| <p>Trainer required: Occupational Therapist knowledgeable and experienced in Play Therapy, to provide Training at the Ministry of Health Northeast Regional Health Authority Child Guidance Clinic, and to deliver a keynote address on "Using Play to build Resilience in our Children" during the national Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference, which will be held on Thursday May 26, 2016.</p> |
| <p>Reason for training: Mental health challenges affect between 20-30% of children and youth in Jamaica. Children and youth with mental health issues face unique barriers to healthy living due to lack of awareness about the symptoms, limited access, knowledge and awareness about available</p> |

support services, the stigma they may face, and significant barriers to increasing services.

In response to the growing concern of the mental health wellness of children and youths in Jamaica, between 2013 and 2015, the Nathan Ebanks Foundation lobbied the Government of Jamaica to have a set aside day establish as National Children and Adolescents' Mental Health Awareness Day, to bring awareness to the issues, to promote positive children and youth development, foster resilience, recovery, and the transformation of mental health services delivery for children and youth with mental health needs and their families, and those who are at risk.

Through the lobby efforts and recommendation of the Nathan Ebanks Foundation, the Government of Jamaica, through the Ministry of Health declared the 4th Thursday of May as National Children's and Adolescent's Mental Health Awareness Day.

In Jamaica the month of May is designated Child's Month where a number of national and local activities are planned to boost awareness in ensuring that our children are psychologically and physically safe. The Northeast Regional Health Authority Child Guidance Clinic of the Ministry of Health has planned a month of activities including a one day conference to provide practitioners with techniques designed to help children build resilience in the community, and has invited the Nathan Ebanks Foundation to partner through the provision of an Occupational Therapist to conduct training in Play Therapy as well as to deliver the Keynote Address on Play Therapy at the Conference.

Number of Persons targeted: 200

Training objectives:

The 2016 National Children and Adolescent Mental Health Awareness theme is: "**Building Resilience: Teaching Children to Bounce Forward from Life's Challenges**". The goals of this Awareness Campaign goals are to create an opportunity to highlight children and adolescents' mental health issues, challenges and needs, in order to:

- Increase public awareness of the causes of, and signs of child and youth mental health problems
- Decreasing stigma, and
- Increase understanding of the help and resources available

Specifically, the trainer will carry out the following activities:

- Deliver the Keynote Address at the Ministry of Health's Northeast Regional Health Authority Child Guidance Clinic Conference which will be held under the theme: "Helping our Children in the Community to Build Resilience Using Play" The conference will be held on May 26, 2016 beginning at 9.00 am. The day's activities will include several presentations on helping children in the community. We have also become aware of the need to include in our presentation the special needs of children with disabilities.

- Delivery two weeks of training on Play therapy in several areas at several locations of the Ministry of Health to health care workers.
- Conduct at least two radio interviews around the training topic **Building Resilience: Teaching Children to Bounce Forward from Life's Challenges using play therapy and other strategies.**

Expected Outcomes:

1. The team of professionals, community health workers and parents will be oriented to principles of play therapy as an intervention tool for children and youths with mental health challenges
2. Students from the local training institutions will be introduced to latest techniques in play therapy and other mental health management techniques.
3. Professionals working with children and youths in the health care sector, schools and other institutions will be provided support to build a curriculum to train the families to work with their children in play based interventions.
4. Public Awareness around children's mental health issues

Preferred dates:

May 23-June 3, 2016 (2 weeks)

Working days and hours:

Monday-Friday

8am to 3:30 pm direct training time

Accommodation, meals and transport:

Ministry of Health will cover the cost related to hosting the conference and mounting the training sessions..

Main languages spoken: English/Jamaican Creole

Any other relevant details:

The Nathan Ebanks Foundation is experienced at mounting disability/special education conferences, training and training Institute. Additionally, this project will strengthen the NEF/MAITS partnership in building local capacity to effectively care for and manage children with disabilities, including mental health challenges and disorders.

Contact details

Organisation contact details to be filled in, including point of contact.

Contact Person: Christine Staple-Ebanks, Founder & President

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheNathanEbanksFoundation>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NEFJamaica>

Please note this is not a MAITS project and is only being advertised by MAITS on the behalf of the Nathan Ebanks Foundation. Successful applicants are welcome to apply for a grant from MAITS (see www.maits.org.uk).